

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ray Ashburg on April 7, 2009.

Claim 17, line 3 replace "greater than 5" with "from 7"

Claim 17, line 4 insert "to 20 g/10 min"

Claim 17, line 7 replace "Methylene" with "methylene"

Claim 17, line 8 replace "ter-butylphenyl" with "tert-butylphenyl"

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 17-22 and 27-35 are allowed over closest references cited below.

The present invention is drawn to a polypropylene suitable for forming a blown film comprising a polypropylene copolymer containing less than 2 % by weight units derived from ethylene and having M_w/M_n of less than 6.0, a melt flow of from 7 g/10 min to 20 g/10 min, less than 3 % xylene solubles, a pentad isotacticity of greater than 91 %, an isotactic pentad/triad ratio of greater 95 %, a crystallinity of at least 65 %, and a crystallization temperature of at least 127 °C, the propylene containing from 750 ppm to 2500 ppm of a nucleator/clarifier additive, wherein said additive is methylene-*bis*(4,6-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphate sodium salt, and wherein a blown film is capable of being manufactured from the propylene at a rate of at least 6 lb/hr-in of die circumference and wherein a one mil thick blown film manufactured from the polypropylene using at least a 1.5 blow-up ratio exhibits a 1 % secant modulus of at least 150,000 psi (ASTM D882), a haze of less than 10 (ASTM D1003), and a clarity of greater than 96 %.

Pierini *et al.* (U.S. 7,087,680) and Pierini *et al.* (WO 2004/033509 ; U.S. 7,361,720) relate to polypropylenes for blown film applications that have M_w/M_n of less than 5, a melt flow of less than 7 g/10 min, and less than 2 % xylene solubles. Polypropylenes contain 500 ppm to 2500 ppm of methylene-*bis*(4,6-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphate sodium salt as nucleator. The melt flow rate of polypropylenes of the prior art differ from that of the instant invention, and therefore, the prior art do not teach polypropylenes of the claimed invention.

Sugano *et al.* (U.S. 6,756,463) teaches a polypropylene containing 1.22 wt % of ethylene derived units, a M_w/M_n of 3.17, a melt flow of 6 g/10 min, 0.5 % xylene solubles, and a triad isotacticity of greater than 99.4 %. The reference does not teach polypropylenes having a crystallization temperature of at least 127 °C, and it does not disclose addition of the claimed methylene-*bis*(4,6-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphate sodium

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salt as nucleator. Therefore, there is no teaching that resulting polypropylenes will inherently or necessarily exhibit the claimed crystallization temperature or the claimed degree of crystallinity of greater than 65 %.

Grasmeder *et al.* (U.S. 6,537,478) teaches a polypropylene homopolymer or copolymer containing 0.01 to 15 mole % of co-monomer exhibiting M_w/M_n of 1.2 to 3.0, a melt flow of 10-100 g/10 min, less than 1.5 % xylene solubles, and 60-99 % isotactic pentads. The reference does not teach polypropylenes having a crystallization temperature of at least 127 °C, and it does not disclose addition of the claimed methylene-*bis*(4,6-di-*tert*-butylphenyl) phosphate sodium salt as nucleator. Therefore, there is no teaching that resulting polypropylenes will inherently or necessarily exhibit the claimed crystallization temperature or the claimed degree of crystallinity of greater than 65 %.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rip A. Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-1104. The examiner can be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached at (571)272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>>. Should you have questions on the access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

/Rip A. Lee/
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April 7, 2009